

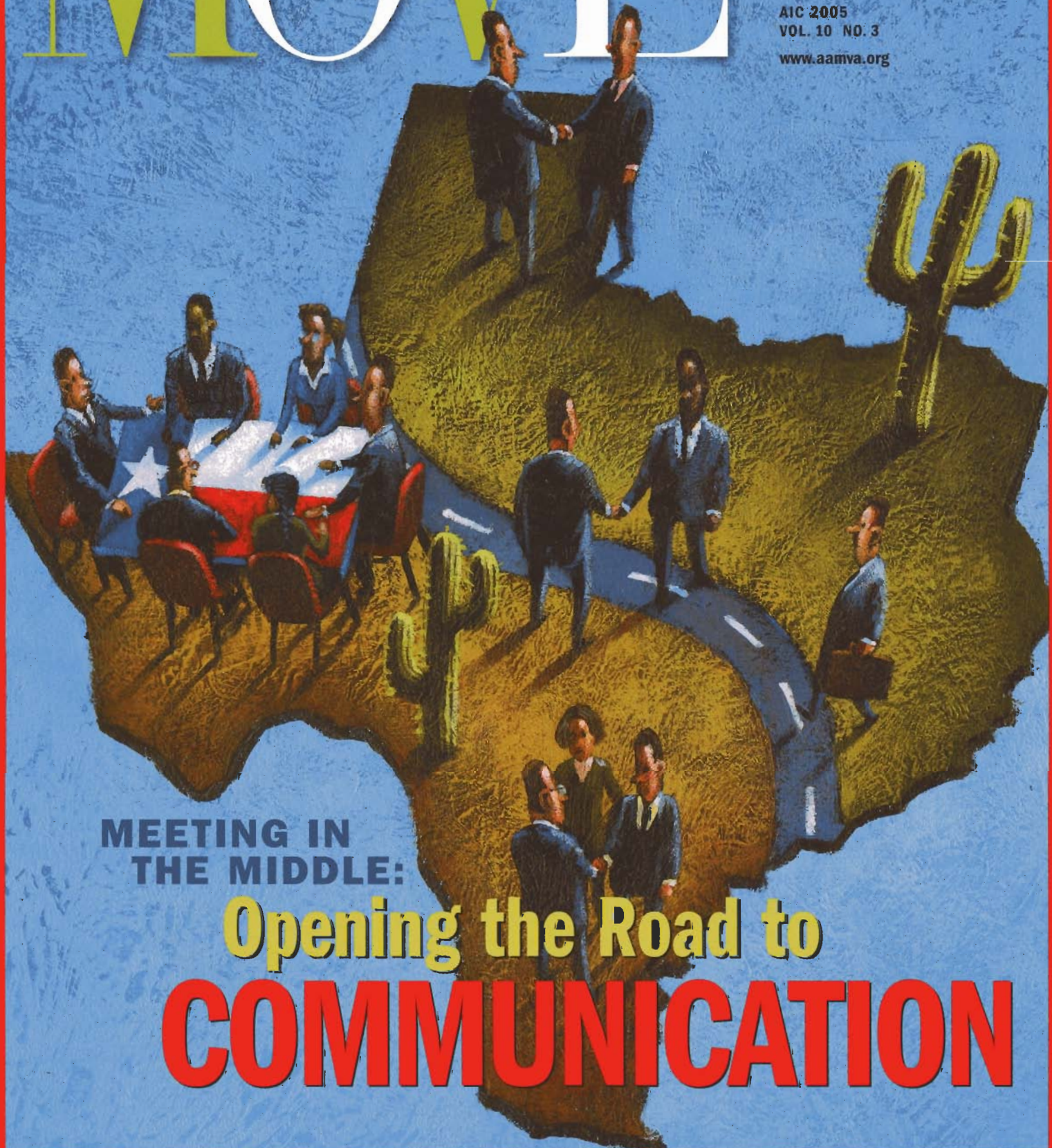
MOVE

Includes
72ND AIC
PROGRAM

INFORMATION FOR
MOTOR VEHICLE &
LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICIALS

AIC 2005
VOL. 10 NO. 3

www.aamva.org



MEETING IN
THE MIDDLE:

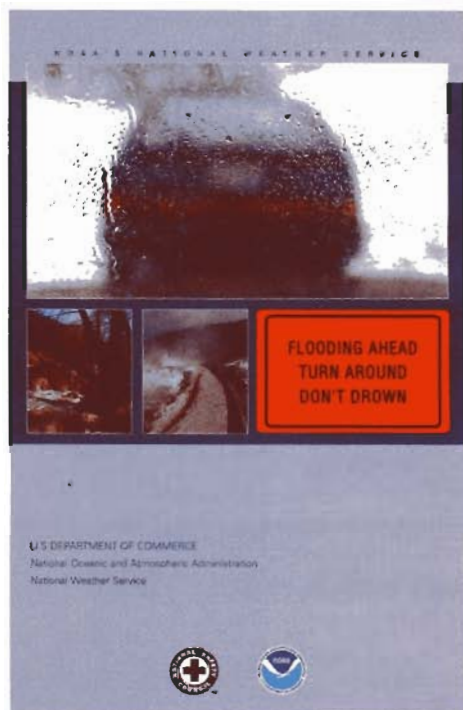
Opening the Road to **COMMUNICATION**

AAMVA ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ISSUE

COALITIONS

Turn Around Don't Drown

Tracy had never considered the hazards of driving across a flooded road until she became aware of a National Weather Service campaign called



“Turn Around Don't Drown (TADD).” Little did she know, four weeks later it would probably save her from harm.

The ground was saturated from rain earlier in the week when Tracy was traveling to work over the back roads of rural Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Ominous dark clouds hovered over head when heavy rain suddenly “cut loose.” As Tracy navigated slowly over the country road, she approached a flooded railroad underpass with more than 15 feet of flowing water.

“I saw some motorists trying to navigate through the water and others turning around,” stated Tracy. “I remembered it is very dangerous to cross a flooded road even at a slow speed so I decided to turn around and play it safe.”

Tracy did the right thing. Each year, more deaths occur due to flooding than from any other severe weather related event. Why? People underestimate the force and power of moving water. More than half of all flood-related deaths occur in vehicles that are swept downstream. Of these drownings, many are preventable. But too many people continue to drive past the barriers that warn the road is flooded.

“Turn Around Don't Drown is an important National Weather Service (NWS) safety campaign,” stated Dr. Tom Graziano, chief of the National Weather Service's Hydrologic Service Division. “We work closely with many partners including the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators to educate motorists not to

drive their vehicles through flowing water.”

Whether you are driving or walking, if you come to a flooded road, “Turn Around Don't Drown.” It is often very difficult to assess the depth of the water and the condition of the road under the water.

By following the advice of one of the NWS' newest campaigns, “Turn Around Don't Drown,” Tracy avoided a potential life-threatening situation. More safety information about TADD or how to deploy a TADD road sign can be found at <http://tadd.weather.gov>.

AAMVA has partnered with the National Weather Service to encourage highway safety and to encourage drivers to “Turn Around Don't Drown.” For more information on AAMVA coalitions, visit www.aamva.org.